Kattakampal temple, Kattakampal, Thrissur district, Kerala

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Info is given under following headings:

Location, address, phone, how to get there. Greatness of this temple. Legends and history. Architecture of temple deities. Sub-deities daily rituals and poojas and their charges ..special poojas and rituals and their charges.. festivals, facilities for devotees...like accommodation etc. Donation info and bank acct number etc. Nearby temples. Other tourist attractions. Nearby budget hotels. Any other info...etc

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Location, Address, Phone, How to Get There

Kattakampal Temple (also known as Kattakambal / Kattakampaal Sree Bhagavathy Kshethram or Kattakampal Sree Siva Temple) is located in Kattakampal village (Kanjirathingal area), Kunnamkulam, Thrissur district, Kerala, India.

Full address: Kattakambal Temple, Kanjirathingal / Kattakampal P.O., Thrissur - 680544, Kerala.

Phone: 04885-276695, 9847276695.

Email: kattakampalbhagavathi@gmail.com.

How to reach:

By road: The temple is approximately 30 km from Thrissur city, 8 km from Kunnamkulam town, and 12 km from Guruvayur. Buses run frequently from Thrissur to Kunnamkulam (about 50 minutes). From Kunnamkulam private bus stand, take a local bus, auto-rickshaw, or taxi (8 km). Self-drive or taxi from Thrissur takes about 45-60 minutes (32 km)

Nearest major railway stations: Thrissur (30 km) or Guruvayur (12 km). No direct railway station at Kattakampal.

Nearest airport: Cochin International Airport (about 80-90 km).

Greatness of This Temple

This is one of the ancient and revered temples in Kerala, believed to be over 2,000 years old and one of the 108 Shiva temples (Shiva Kshetras) installed by Sage Parasurama.

It holds special significance due to its dual main deities (Shiva and Bhagavathy) in a single complex and is renowned statewide for the vibrant Kattakampal Pooram festival, which features the dramatic Kali-Darika Vadham ritual symbolizing the victory of good over evil.
The temple attracts thousands of devotees, especially during the Pooram, and is considered highly powerful for fulfilling wishes related to protection, prosperity, and removal of obstacles.

Legends and History

According to legends, Sage Parasurama installed the Shiva Lingam here while traveling through dense forests after reclaiming Kerala from the sea. He meditated at the site and dug a well with his axe (the well still exists, covered by a rock). A Bhootham (in the form of a hunter) helped spread word about the temple.

Later, during the rule of Perumalkkanmar, a local king who lost his property and children prayed to Shiva and received a vision directing him to perform bhajana at Kanyakumari Temple. Devi Kanyakumari (as Jagathambika / Bhadrakali) appeared in the pooja pot and was installed in the temple with Shiva's permission, facing west. The installation involved tantric rituals by Namboodiri thantris.

The deity is believed to manifest in different forms daily: Dakshinamurthy (morning, for knowledge), Ghoramurthy (noon, for destroying enemies), and Ardhanareeswara (evening, for wealth). The temple gained fame for eradicating devotees' sufferings.

Architecture of Temple, Deities, Sub-Deities

The temple follows traditional Kerala architectural style on a roughly 2-acre plot. It features a sanctum sanctorum (Sree Kovil) for Shiva facing east and a separate sanctum for Bhagavathy facing west, along with a nalambalam (circumambulatory path), compound walls, and sub-shrines. The overall temple faces west.

Main Deities: Lord Shiva (facing east) and Sree Bhagavathy / Bhadrakali / Kanyakumari Devi (facing west, also known as Jagathambika).

Sub-Deities: Ganapathi, Ayyappan, and Nagas (serpent deities).

Daily Rituals and Poojas and Their Charges

Daily rituals follow standard Kerala temple traditions (Usha Pooja, etc.). Key offerings include Chathurshatham Payasam (main for Shiva) and Pachaata / Pacha Ada Nivedyam (main for Bhagavathy).

The temple offers a wide range of poojas such as Pushpanjali (various types), Dhara, Mala, Vilakku (lamp offerings), Abhishekam, Homas (e.g., Ganapathy Homam, Mrityunjaya Homam), various Sookthams, Nivedyams (payasams, ada, etc.), Bhagavath Seva, and vehicle poojas.

Charges: Not listed publicly online. Contact the temple office directly (04885-276695 or 9847276695) for current rates, availability, and advance booking.

Special Poojas and Rituals and Their Charges

Special rituals include Pradosha Pooja, Trikala Pooja (for Shiva, Bhagavathy, Ayyappan), Thulabharam, and other homams/abhishekams. Prathishta Dinam and festival-related rituals are also observed.

Charges: Not published online. Devotees should call the temple numbers above for details, bookings, and any special requirements.

Festivals

The highlight is Kattakampal Pooram (also called Kattakambal Pooram), a major 7-10 day festival (some sources mention 9 days) ending on the Pooram nakshatra day in the Malayalam month of Medam (April/May).
It features processions with caparisoned elephants, melam, thalappoli, and the grand Kali-Darika Vadham (dramatic enactment of Bhagavathy slaying the demon Darika, including dialogue, battle, and victory rituals).
Other elements include Kozhikkallu moodal and devotional songs. The festival draws huge crowds and is famous for its vibrant, ritualistic performances symbolizing good triumphing over evil.

Facilities for Devotees (e.g., Accommodation)

No on-site accommodation or rest house is mentioned. Devotees usually stay in nearby towns. Basic facilities like prasadam may be available.
For any special arrangements, contact the temple office. Wheelchair accessibility is noted at the entrance in some listings.

Donation Info and Bank Account Number

Donations are accepted for general purposes, gold/silver items, ghee, oil, vegetables, and a family aid fund (Kudumba Sahaya Nidhi).

No public bank account details or online donation portal are listed on the official website or other reliable sources.

Donations are typically made in person or by contacting the temple office. Please call 04885-276695 or 9847276695 for guidance.

Nearby Temples

- Peedikeshoram / Peethikeswaram Shiva Temple (Pengaamukku, nearby in Kattakampal area).
- Paroor Siva Temple.
- Manaliyarkkavu Temple (Nannammukku).
- Several other Shiva temples in Talappilli Taluk (e.g., Pazhanni area temples).
- Major nearby: Guruvayur Sri Krishna Temple (12 km) and various temples in Kunnamkulam and Thrissur (e.g., Vadakkunnathan Temple, 30 km).

Other Tourist Attractions

- Guruvayur temple town (12 km) – famous Krishna temple and cultural sites.
- Thrissur city (30 km) – cultural capital of Kerala with Vadakkunnathan Temple, Athirappilly Waterfalls (farther), and festivals like Thrissur Pooram.
- Kerala Kalamandalam (nearby) for classical arts.

Nearby Budget Hotels

Budget options are mainly in Kunnamkulam (8 km away):

- Orison Residency, Liwa Tower Hotel & Business Center, Victory Inn Park Residency, Kalathil Tourist Home (rates typically start from ₹900–2,000 per night; check current prices on booking sites like Tripadvisor or MakeMyTrip).
- Other affordable stays in Thrissur or Guruvayur if needed. Book in advance during festival season.

Any Other Info

Temple timings are not explicitly listed online – please confirm by phone (typical Kerala temple hours: early morning to evening).

Respect traditional dress codes and photography rules.

The temple is managed by a trust; the website (kattakampalbhagavathikshethram.com) has more details on poojas and events.
For the latest updates on festivals or poojas, contact the office directly.
The information is based on official and reliable sources as of the latest available data.

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Ref: Google Gemini

The **Kattakampal Sree Bhagavathy Temple** (also known as Kattakambal Temple) is a significant spiritual and historical landmark located in the Thrissur district of Kerala. It is renowned for its antiquity and its inclusion in the 108 Shiva temples (Shivalayas) of Kerala.

1. Location and Access

- **Address:** Kattakampal, Thrissur District, Kerala, PIN - 680544.
- **How to Get There:**
    - **By Road:** It is approximately 33 km from **Thrissur** city and about 10 km from **Kunnamkulam**. Local buses and taxis are available from Kunnamkulam and Guruvayur.
    - **By Rail:** The nearest major railway station is **Thrissur (TCR)**. **Guruvayur Railway Station** is also close (approx. 14 km).

    - **By Air:** The nearest airport is **Cochin International Airport (COK)**, about 85 km away.

2. Contact Information

- **Phone:** 04885-276695 / +91 98472 76695
- **Email:** kattakampalbhagavathi@gmail.com
- **Website:** kattakampalbhagavathikshethram.com

3. History and Legends

- **Historical Significance:** The temple is believed to be over **2,000 years old**. It is traditionally cited as one of the 108 Shiva temples consecrated by **Sage Parashurama**.
- **Legend of Origin:** Local folklore tells of a cow that used to pour its milk over a stone in the forest. Upon investigation, a *Swayambhu* (self-manifested) Shiva Lingam was discovered. The name "Kattakampal" is said to be derived from *Kadu* (forest), *Kamadhenu* (the divine cow), and *Pal* (milk).
- **Deities:**
    - **Lord Shiva:** The primary deity, facing East.
    - **Goddess Bhagavathy:** Also a primary deity (a form of Durga/Bhadrakali), facing West.
    - **Sub-deities:** Ganapathi, Ayyappan, and Nagas (Serpent Gods).04885-276695

4. Architecture

The temple follows the classical **Kerala style of architecture**. It spans approximately two acres and features:

- **Two Main Sanctums (Sreekovils):** One for Shiva and one for Bhagavathy, creating a balanced dual-deity complex.
- **Chuttambalam:** The outer structure surrounding the sanctums.
- **Woodwork:** Intricate carvings typical of ancient Kerala temples are found throughout the structure.

5. Rituals, Poojas, and Timings

Daily Timings

- **Morning:** 5:00 AM – 10:30 AM
- **Evening:** 5:00 PM – 7:30 PM

Key Rituals

- **Nirmalyam:** 5:00 AM
- **Abhishekam & Usha Pooja:** 6:30 AM
- **Deeparadhana:** 6:00 PM
- *Note: For specific pooja charges and the latest rates for offerings like Pushpanjali or Ganapathi Homam, it is recommended to contact the temple office directly, as rates are subject to change by the Devaswom/Trust.*

6. Festivals

- **Kattakampal Pooram:** The most famous event, held in the Malayalam month of *Medam* (April/May). It is celebrated over ten days.
- **Kali-Darika War:** A major highlight of the Pooram is the ritualistic re-enactment of the battle between Goddess Kali and the demon Darika (*Darika Vadham*).
- **Cultural Arts:** The festival features elephant processions (*Ezhunnallathu*) and traditional percussion like *Panchavadyam* and *Tayambaka*.

7. Facilities and Nearby Attractions

- **Accommodation:** While the temple may have limited direct rooms, budget stays are available in **Kunnamkulam** (e.g., RC Lodge) or the nearby pilgrim hub of **Guruvayur**, which offers extensive options.
- **Nearby Temples:**
    - **Kadavallur Sri Rama Temple** (Famous for *Anyonyam* Vedic competition).
    - **Guruvayur Sree Krishna Temple** (approx. 14 km).
    - **Punnathur Kotta** (Elephant Sanctuary).
- **Donations:** To contribute to the temple trust, please contact the office at the numbers provided above for the verified Bank Account Number and IFSC code, as financial details for the Thrissur-based trust are often provided directly to donors to ensure security.

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More info:

1. Legends and Detailed History

- **The 108 Shivalayas:** The temple is recognized as one of the 108 Shiva temples established by **Sage Parashurama** to protect the land of Kerala.
- **The Three Manifestations:** A unique spiritual belief at this temple is that the deity changes form throughout the day:
    - **Morning: Dakshinamurthi**, representing knowledge and education.
    - **Noon: Ghoramurthy**, a fierce form worshipped for overcoming enemies.
    - **Evening: Ardhanareeswara**, representing the union of Shiva and Shakti and the provider of wealth.

- **The Ancient Well:** Legend says Parashurama used his axe (*Parasu*) to dig a well for water during his meditation here. This well still exists within the temple premises, though it is traditionally kept covered by a rock.
- **The Hunter's News:** It is said the Sage employed a *Bhootha* (divine spirit) who disguised himself as a hunter to inform the local villagers of the divine presence of Shiva, leading to the temple's establishment.

2. Architecture

- **Dual Sanctums:** Unlike most Kerala temples, it features two separate *Sreekovils* (sanctums):
    - **Lord Shiva:** Faces **East**, following the traditional orientation for Shivalayas.
    - ***Goddess Bhagavathy (Bhadrakali): Faces* **West**. This western-facing shrine is actually the more famous aspect of the temple today.
- **Sculptural Details:** The front *Mandapam* and the *Nalambalam* (outer structure) are adorned with intricate wood carvings and sculptures depicting various forms of Lord Shiva and scenes from the Puranas.
- **Layout:** The complex spans approximately two acres. The Bhagavathy shrine is located in the southwest corner of the inner courtyard.

3. Daily Rituals and Special Poojas

Daily Timings

- **Morning:** 5:00 AM to 10:30 AM
- **Evening:** 5:00 PM to 7:30 PM

Core Daily Rituals

1. ***Nirmalyam (5:00 AM): Viewing the deity with the previous day's garlands.*
1. **Abhishekam & Usha Pooja (6:30 AM):** The morning offering.
1. **Deeparadhana (6:00 PM):** The evening lamp ceremony.

Pooja Charges (Estimated)

While exact figures are updated periodically by the Devaswom, typical offerings include:

- **Pushpanjali:** Flower offerings (Standard, Bhagya Sooktham, or Purusha Sooktham).
- **Ganapathi Homam:** A ritual to remove obstacles, usually performed in the morning.
- **Niramala & Chuttuvilakku:** Lighting all the lamps around the temple (usually requires prior booking).
- **Special Rituals:** During the **Mandala season** (Nov–Dec), **Kalam Pattu** (traditional ritual songs and floor art) is performed for 41 days.

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- **Special Rituals:** During the **Mandala season** (Nov–Dec), **Kalam Pattu** (traditional ritual songs and floor art) is performed for 41 days.

4. Famous Festivals

- **Kattakampal Pooram:** The grandest festival, held in the Malayalam month of *Medam* (April/May).
    - **Duration:** 10 days, concluding on the Pooram asterism.
    - **Darika Vadham:** The highlight is the ritualistic re-enactment of the battle between Goddess Kali and the demon Darika. This "war" is a spectacular dramatic performance unique to this region.
    - **Pageantry:** Includes a procession of caparisoned elephants, traditional percussion (*Melam*), and fireworks.
- **Maha Shivaratri:** Celebrated with special *Abhishekams* and night-long prayers dedicated to Lord Shiva.

5. Facilities and Donation Information

- **Devotee Facilities:** Basic amenities for refreshing are available. For overnight stays, the town of **Kunnamkulam** (8 km away) has budget hotels and lodges.
- **Donations:** Contributions are accepted for temple maintenance and festival expenses.
    - **Contact for Bank Details:** 04885-276695 or +91 98472 76695.
    - **Official Email:** kattakampalbhagavathi@gmail.com

6. Nearby Attractions

- **Kadavallur Sri Rama Temple:** Located nearby, it is world-famous for the *Anyonyam* (Vedic debates).
- **Punnathur Kotta:** The Guruvayur Devaswom elephant sanctuary, housing over 50 elephants.
- **Guruvayur Temple:** One of the most important pilgrimage sites in India (14 km).

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Ref: Wikipedia

Kattakampal Temple is located at Kattakampal village in Thrissur district. The main deity of the temple is Shiva in the Sanctum sanctorum facing east.[1] But the temple is famous for Kattakampal Bhagavathy in the separate Sanctum sanctorum facing west. **It is believed that this temple is one of the 108 Shiva Temples of Kerala and is installed by sage Parasurama dedicated to Shiva.** [2] [3] [4] **According to legends the Kattakampal temple is considered as 2000 years old.** The temple is famous for the annual Pooram celebrations (**Kattakampal Pooram**).

Kattakampal Pooram

The temple is famous for the annual Pooram celebrations.Seven days of festival finishes on Pooram day (Pooram asterism) in the Malayalam month of Medam (April / May). The major highlight of the pooram festival is the Kali - Darika War and Darika Vadham (killing of the demon Darikasura).

Temple architecture

The temple is situated in Kattakampal village, a tiny peninsula in Thrissur district. The temple comprises a plot of land about two acres. The temples of Shiva are of great significance when inspecting temple architecture. The over-all temple complex faces west.

Location

Kattakambal Temple is located at Kattakampal of Kunnamkulam in Thrissur district.

Photos

Kattakampal Mahadeva Temple

Pooram

Kali

Darikan

Sub-deity temple

Devi Kali Temple facing East

Temple Nalambalam

Temple compound

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Videos

Kattakampal temple..vlog (19 min):

https://youtu.be/9RfZ5O-fgxA?si=9jLNbQ03-usVBAWB

Kattakampal temple (4 min):https://youtu.be/XLIt5apWizs?si=a2m-OugwI2UfzWoQ

Kattakampal Pooram 2024 (1 hr 33 min):

https://youtu.be/YtYxRSLjGAk?si=zzZ00MzkUjw4FZUO

Kattakampal Pooram 2024 (17 min):

https://youtu.be/RwGqI221yIc?si=IBuhZsjfiwx6AqOs

Pooram 2024…Goddess Bhadrakali killing Daruka (28 min):

https://youtu.be/fiv2OhxRkD8?si=_znt1tfJdr3BC0b_

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Dr. M. Thirumaleshwar

April 1, 2026

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